

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An air conditioning apparatus for a rear seat comprising:
 - an air conditioning unit capable of supplying conditioned air to a cabin of a vehicle;
 - a ducting provided at a front seat in the vehicle having a flexible duct member with a U-shape to allow said ducting to travel in conjunction with ~~[[the]]~~ travel of ~~[[the]]~~ said front seat; ~~[[and]]~~
 - a center connection duct that connects said air conditioning unit and said ducting, the center connection duct located in a center console of said vehicle; and
 - a blow-out port from which said conditioned air, which is sent from ~~[[the]]~~ said air conditioning unit, is blown out toward a passenger ~~[[being]]~~ seated on the rear seat, said blow-out port provided in an appropriate position at a back surface of said front seat to supply ~~[[the]]~~ said conditioned air to said passenger, and said blow-out port connected to said ducting in ~~[[the]]~~ said front seat.

2-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ducting further comprises:

a leading duct member provided in a back-support portion of [[the]] said front seat, having two ends, wherein one of [[the]] said two ends is connected to said flexible duct member, and [[other]] another one of [[the]] said two ends is connected to [[the]] said blow-out port,

wherein said flexible duct is provided in a cavity formed in a seat portion of said front seat.

7. (Original) An air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ducting is formed as a single member by a molding process.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An air conditioning apparatus for a seat comprising:

a seat back support duct within a seat back support portion, said seat back support duct having a first end and a second end;

a u-shaped duct within a seat bottom portion, said u-shaped duct having a first end and a second end, wherein said second end of said seat back support duct fluidly connects to said second end of said U-shaped duct; and

a center duct portion, said center duct portion supplying air to said first end of said u-shaped duct, wherein said center duct portion is located beside said seat bottom portion in a horizontal plane.

11. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 10, wherein said seat back support duct of said seat back support portion passes into said seat bottom portion.

12. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 11, wherein said seat back support duct has a bellows portion at a pivot point of said seat back support portion relative to said seat bottom portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 10 wherein said u-shaped duct is flexible and maintains a tubular shape when said seat bottom portion is moved forward and aft relative to said center duct portion.

14. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 10 wherein said u-shaped duct has a bellows portion at a point of connection to said seat back support duct.

15. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 10 wherein said first end of said seat back support duct is an exhaust port.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An air conditioning apparatus comprising:

a seat bottom portion;

a u-shaped duct within said seat bottom portion;

a seat back support portion adjacent said seat bottom portion;

a seat back support duct within said seat back support portion, said seat back support duct fluidly connecting with said u-shaped duct; [[and]]

a blow-out port at an end of said seat back support duct, said blow-out port located at an upper surface of said seat back support portion; and

a center connection duct located next to said seat bottom portion between vehicle seats, said center connection duct connected to said u-shaped duct to supply air to all ducts.

18. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 17, wherein said u-shaped duct maintains its u-shape upon repositioning of said seat bottom portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

an accordion portion in said u-shaped duct where said u-shaped duct connects with said seat back support duct.

20. (Previously Presented) The air conditioning apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

a bellows portion in said seat back support duct where said seat back support duct pivots relative to said seat bottom portion.